Agricultural SEZs

3212. SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have formulated Agricultural Special Economic Zones to acquire land for MNCs in the farm products sector;

(b) the details regarding the agricultural SEZs scheme;

(c) whether huge swath of land would be acquired for creating industries, sugar factories and vineries on such land acquired from poor farmers;

(d) how many such Agricultural SEZs would be formed; and

(e) the reasons for this unusual concept?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTI LALBHURIA): (a) No, Sir. No. Agricultural Special Economic Zones have been formulated. However, two Agro based SEZs have been approved so far. Details are as follows:

(i) One Agro-based SEZ in Latur, Maharashtra, has been granted formal approval over an area of 200 hectares. It is being developed by Maharashtra Industrial Development Corporation (MIDC).

(ii) One, in principle approval has been granted for setting up a Chemical (Agro-based) SEZ in Gujarat over an area of 106 hectares to be developed by a private developer.

(b) to (e) Do not arise.

Mechanisation of agriculture in Goa

3213. SHRI SHANTARAM LAXMAN NAIK: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether schemes for agricultural mechanization are in force in Goa;